

Message Text

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TODMAN

E.9. 11652: NA
TAGS: OVIP (TODMAN, TERENCE A.), NU
SUBJECT: ASST SECRETARY TODMAN VISIT: PRESS QUESTIONS

1. THE FOLLOWING ARE QUESTIONS WHICH COULD BE ANTICIPATED IN A PRESS CONFERENCE. EMBASSY BELIEVES DEPARTMENT IS IN POSITION TO SUPPLY SUGGESTED ANSWERS TO GENERAL POLICY QUESTIONS AND TO QUESTIONS REGARDING DEPARTMENT ACTIONS ON MILITARY AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE DECISIONS. FURTHER WE BELIEVE AMPLE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE FOR PREPARING ANSWERS TO MORE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS SUCH AS CHRITON CASE AND GOODYEAR BRIBERY CHARGE.

2. QUESTIONS:

A. IS THE U.S. POLICY OF HUMAN RIGHTS A NEW MEANS OF INTERVENTION? BY WHAT AUTHORITY HAS THE U.S. ASSUMED THE LEADERSHIP FOR ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS?

B. WHAT RESULTS DO YOU BELIEVE PRESIDENT CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN HAS HAD IN LATIN AMERICA? DOES THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE EXPECT
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INTERNAL CHANGES IN THESE COUNTRIES?

C. DOES THE REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH CUBA IMPLY A NEW POLICY AND DIFFERENT ATTITUDE BY THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION TOWARDS COMMUNIST SUBVERSION AND PENETRATION?

D. HOW DOES THE U.S. VIEW ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN TERMS OF

THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION?

E. AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN ARTHUR CHARITON HAS BEEN IN JAIL SINCE LAST MAY. WHAT IS THE USG DOING ABOUT THE CASE?

F. ACCORDING TO THE WALL STREET JOURNAL AND LOCAL PRESS, GOODYEAR TIRE AND RUBBER HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH MAKING PAYMENTS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN NICARAGUA (AND OTHER COUNTRIES) FOR THEIR HELP IN OBTAINING TIRE PRICE INCREASES. THE FORMER NICARAGUAN MINISTER OF ECONOMY HAS DENIED ANY WRONGDOING AND HAS CALLED ON GOODYEAR TO COME FORWARD AND NAME THE PERSONS WHO ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED PAYMENTS. WOULD THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE SUPPORT ANY MOVE BY NICARAGUANS TO DETERMINE FROM GOODYEAR WHO RECEIVED PAYMENTS?

G. NICARAGUA IT SEEMS IS SINGLED OUT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS THAT GO VIRTUALLY UNNOTICE IN OTHER COUNTRIES. DOES THE U.S. HAVE A "DOUBLE STANDARD" IN ITS HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY?

H. IS IT TRUE THE U.S. URGED NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS TO ACCEDE TO THE MOVEMENT FOR A NATIONAL DIALOGUE IN NICARAGUA? WHY?

I. HOW DOES THE U.S. VIEW NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS SUCH AS THE FSLN? DON'T THEY ALSO VIOLATE HUMAN RIGHTS?

J. WHAT IS US POLICY WITH REGARD TO ANTI-GON QUERRILLAS IN COSTA RICA AND HONDURAS AND THEIR LAUNCHING OPERATIONS FROM THESE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNTRIES?
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